

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The finding of allowable subject matter at dependent claims 4-8 is appreciatively noted. These claims have now been amended to self-standing independent format and are thus assumed to be in fully allowed condition.

In addition, earlier withdrawn claim 3 has now been made dependent from allowed generic claim 4 and is thus assumed to also be allowable in this same application.

Attention is directed to new claim 9 which is the same as original dependent claim 7 except that it depends from allowed claim 4.

A rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly anticipated by Nomura JP '298 is respectfully traversed. However, since these claims have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, this ground of rejection has been mooted and is thus not believed necessary at this time to explain the deficiencies of this reference.

There being no other issues, it is believed that this entire application is now in allowable condition and a formal Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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